

comparatively short and broad proportions—the same feature by which the dorsal shield of *Homosteus* is most conspicuously distinguished from that of *Cocosteus*; and it may be added that if the originals of figs. 3 and 4 are correctly determined as anterior median ventral and ventro-lateral respectively, they represent a fish of exactly the same size as that indicated by the occipital plates with which they are associated.

In conclusion, the new evidence seems to show that the “cranial shield” of *Homosteus* extended backwards far beyond the hinder extremity of the brain; while there are suggestive indications of the ventral shield having been as remarkably short and broad as the dorsal. The last mentioned result is exactly such as might have been anticipated; but the former, if substantiated by further discoveries, presents some novel features for investigation.

2. On Simony's Lizard, *Lacerta simonyi*.

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(Plates XVIII. & XIX.)

The largest of the three specimens of *Lacerta simonyi*, Steindachner¹, obtained by Canon Tristram on the Rock of Zalmo, near Hierro, Canary Islands, and presented to the Society by Lord Lilford, having recently died, has been acquired by the British Museum. I propose to give a description and figure of this rare Lizard as a supplement to Dr. Steindachner's account. The specimen here described is a male.

Physiognomy and general proportions of *Lacerta ocellata*. Head large, with swollen cheeks; snout moderately long, obtuse. Rostral entering the nostril; a single postnasal, in contact with the first and second labials; frontal as broad as long, not quite as long as the frontoparietals; supraoculars separated from the supraciliaries by a series of granules; interparietal very narrow, as long as the occipital; occipital large, trapezoid, its posterior border two thirds the width of the frontal; five upper labials anterior to the subocular; temple covered with large irregular shields; a narrow elongate shield on the upper anterior border of the ear; the so-called masseteric shield more or less enlarged. Gular fold absent; 34 gular scales on a line between the collar and the third pair of chin-shields; collar with serrated edge, composed of 13 plates. Dorsal scales small, oval, strongly keeled, separated from one another by minute granules; 90 scales across the middle of the body; two or three series of scales on the sides correspond to one ventral plate. Ventral plates square in the middle, longer than broad on the sides, in 20 longitudinal and 34 transverse series. Præanal plate bordered by three semicircles of small plates. The hind limb reaches the axilla.

¹ Anz. Ak. Wien, 1889, p. 260.

Femoral pores 31—31. Tail nearly once and a half as long as head and body (reproduced); caudal scales strongly keeled, with truncate posterior border. Blackish brown above; a lateral series of six or seven roundish pale yellow spots, gradually decreasing in size from front to back, the first above the shoulder; three other large yellowish spots lower down on each side, extending on to the outer ventrals; lower parts brown, yellowish in the middle of the belly; some of the ventrals tinged with red.

	millim.
Total length.....	535
Head	57
Width of head	45
From end of snout to fore limb	90
From end of snout to vent	210
Fore limb.....	80
Hind limb	120
Tail (reproduced)	325

The teeth have tricuspid crowns, the lateral cusps being stronger and more regular than in any of the adult *Lacertæ* which I have examined. They differ much from those of a *Lacerta ocellata* of similar size in not being worn down, as may be seen from the figures (Plate XIX. figs. *d*, *e*) appended to this paper, which represent the lateral teeth in the two Lizards.

Lacerta simonyi has been correctly compared by Steindachner with *L. galloti* from the Canary Islands, which must be regarded as its nearest ally. Its affinities to *L. ocellata* are, however, equally striking, for though it agrees with the former in its single postnasal, its five anterior labials, and the number of femoral pores, it differs from it and agrees with the latter in its temporal scutellation and its denticulate collar. It appears to me, therefore, that *L. ocellata* and *L. galloti* are more intimately connected than has been hitherto believed.

EXPLANATION OF THE PLATES.

PLATE XVIII.

Lacerta simonyi, ♂. Two thirds natural size.

PLATE XIX.

- a.* Upper view of head of *Lacerta simonyi*.
- b.* Lower view of head of ditto.
- c.* Anal region of ditto.
- d.* Maxillary teeth of ditto. Multiplied two diameters.
- e.* Maxillary teeth of *Lacerta ocellata*. Multiplied two diameters.